



## ***Labor & Public Employees Committee***

March 15, 2022

The Connecticut Conference of Municipalities (CCM) is Connecticut's statewide association of towns and cities and the voice of local government - your partners in governing Connecticut. Our members represent 99% of Connecticut's population. We appreciate the opportunity to testify on bills of interest to towns and cities.

### **SB 422 "An Act Concerning the Essential Workers Covid-19 Assistance Program"**

SB 422 would expand coverage under the fund to essential workers falling in the 1c phase for the COVID-19 vaccination program, and (2) provide up to eighty hours of paid sick leave to all workers who were unable to work because they had to quarantine because of COVID-19.

At first read, the bill appears the expansion would be covered under the Connecticut Essential Workers COVID-19 Assistance Fund; however, CCM has concerns with lines 243-246. The bill appears to apply to all employers, including municipalities that "the first eighty hours of paid sick leave shall come from the employee's employer. Any amount surpassing eighty hours may be requested from the Connecticut Essential Workers COVID-19 Assistance Fund".

This provision would place another unfunded mandate on towns and cities and increase costs for not only municipalities, but for business's around the state. CCM opposes this provision.

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If you have any questions, please contact [Zachary McKeown](#), Senior Legislative Associate for CCM.